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mortality, stoicism and epicureanism were tried, till at last nature was found the best of all sinapisms.

Part II finds ennui the malady of the century, and his is the ennui not of feeling, but of thought. Both realism and idealists are products of melancholy, because of their abandonment of higher views. German philosophy, as a sort of pride in truth, has no cheer for the author, nor simple faith in letters. The purely autonomous sages are most serene, and the evolutionary Utopia is a tolerable halting place. Ecstasy, humanism, æsthetic and metaphysical religions, drama, music, mysticism were tried. Once he thought he found peace in self-renunciation, but the depression returned with almost suicidal intensity, and the book ends abruptly.

Allard we opine to be a lay figure, to whom the author ascribes his lucubrations. He must have been an omnivorous reader, but a superficial one, and the moral of this confession, if one can be psychologized from it, we suggest to be the unsatisfactory nature of voluminous but desultory reading. A mind that is like a well used sheet of blotting paper is a sad spectacle to others and must be unsatisfactory to its possessor. It is not a very remarkable work of genius.

The New England Invalid. The Shattuck Lecture for 1895. By ROBERT T. EDES, M. D. Boston, 1895, pp. 57.

The New England invalid, who "needs only to be built up," has a symptom for every organ, and no specialist can escape her. If the old physician gives her up, she bestows herself on the young. "The physician cannot dispose of her to the surgeon, for after her braces have given out, after her spine has been shortened by a vertebra or two, after her pelvis and her pocketbook are alike empty, she comes back." But it is the modern sisters and husbands who hear most of the functional irritations, distresses, the burnings, the flutterings, the quiverings, the throbbings, the tensions, the relaxations, the reproaches for indifference, the accusations of selfishness and the more trying repentance therefor, the ostentatious resignation of the misunderstood, the sympathy which they crave, the constant outflow of nervous force for which there is no adequate re-supply in a confident hope of recovery, who suffer and know most of her. The types described are: (1) the malingerers pure and simple, who feign disease out of whole cloth, with deliberate intent; (2) the exaggerators, honest but whimsical, silly and self-indulgent; (3) the constitutionally neurotic; (4) the hysterically excitable; (5) the neuromimetic; (6) the confirmed neuromimetic; (7 and 8) the tense and the limp neurasthenic; (9) the melancholic. While there may be something in the doctrine of the curative effect of surgical operations *per se*, removal of healthy ovaries rarely cures these cases. The lithæmic doctrine of uric acid, headache, or suppressed gout, does not show that there is not another neurasthenic headache. Some of these patients have a good blood color of even 80 per cent. Fleische, so anæmia is not always the cause. Next to those of no occupation, teachers and students supply most invalids of this type. The excessive New England conscientious school methods which make pupils "bite off more than they can chew," and especially examinations, are in part responsible. The author differs from Dr. Cowles' view that melancholy is a further development of neurasthenia, by holding the form to be a self-limited disease with beginning, middle and end, although sometimes becoming chronic. The figure which compares neurasthenia to a bank account constantly drawn on

without corresponding deposit, is exceedingly erroneous in "implying that no matter how low the account may go, it can be set right again at once by a single sufficient sum." If the patient has pride in the obscurity, difficulty or patience of her own case, as if saying to the doctor, 'I defy you to cure me,' then very pride must be turned in the direction of holding her recovery to be phenomenal, or her strength and elasticity great. We must learn many secrets of psychic treatment from charlatans.

Abnormal Women. A Sociological and Scientific Study of Young Women, etc. By ARTHUR MACDONALD. Washington, D. C., 1895, pp. 189.

The author studied philosophy and allied subjects in Europe for several years on a Harvard fellowship, and was later docent in anthropological psychology in Clark University, and for the last few years has been in the Bureau of Education in Washington. He has published books of considerable size: "Abnormal Man," "Criminology," and "Le Criminel-Type," and made many anthropometric measurements of children, and has traveled extensively in this country and Europe in quest of data for his investigations. Mr. McDonald appears to hold, with men like Krafft-Ebing and Lombroso, who have perhaps chiefly influenced him, that certain delicate themes are in crying need of investigation.

To find abnormal women in society the following advertisement was inserted in the personal column of a number of the principal newspapers in the large cities of our country: "Gentleman of high social and university positions desires correspondence (acquaintance not necessary) with young educated women of high social and financial position. No agents; no triflers. Must give detailed account of life; references required. Address Lock Box —." The book consists chiefly of letters and accounts of eighty-eight "cases" who replied to this advertisement, all names and most places being, of course, omitted. As the correspondents, mostly young women of refinement and education and undoubted respectability, "lived in all parts of our country, mostly in large cities, and some in Europe, the probability of any of them being identified is practically *nil*. It is difficult to see any serious reason why people in general should object to being studied, for the name of person or place is of no account." Some "gave their name and address in their first letter, illustrating the credulity of young women." The author's reply requested them to tell all about themselves. Those he was able to call upon were tested with delicate instruments of precision as to "acuteness of the nerves to heat, pain and locality." From these experiments the author inclines to the view that the cause of their disposition to answer "personals" was due, not so much to the nervous condition as to the fact that most are out of harmony with their present social environment. Most of these women have nothing special to do in life. The number that have traveled in Europe and speak more than one language is striking. These seem least able to focus, and soon tire of everything. Some answer at once; some think it over a week or more; some answer to escape monotony; some love mystery; some for curiosity; some to give the author a moral lecture. As a whole the letters are of exceeding interest and significance to the psychologist and sociologist. Some of them are brilliant literary products. It suggests wrong or defective education. The author's very brief pages at the close of the book are unsatisfactory, and do not, to our thinking, bring out at all adequately the lessons of these painful yet interesting pages.

G. S. H.